

First President of the Great Lakes Falconers' Association

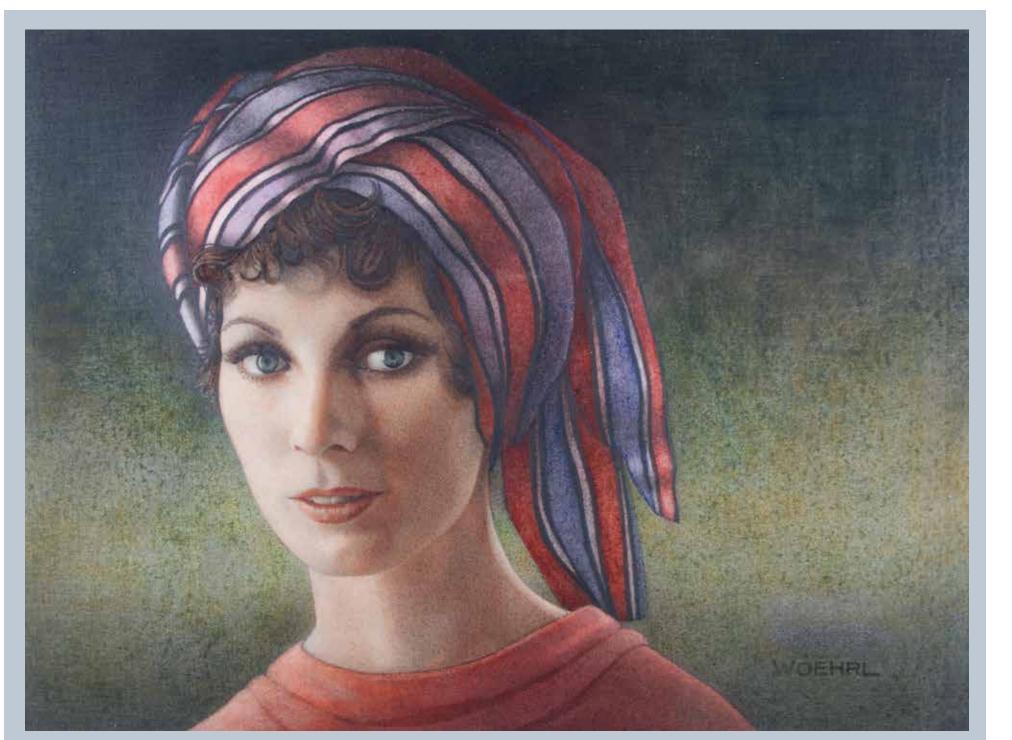
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MEMBERS AND FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE GREAT LAKES FALCONERS' ASSOCIATION. He died October 15, 2002 at the age of 76. An avid falconer, George loved trapping peregrines along Lake Michigan and provided falcons to many of his friends. He would charge a nominal fee to cover his trapping expenses but any birds not promptly picked up by the end of the day were immediately released. Raised in Chicagoland, at sixteen he lied about his age and enlisted in Marine Corps during WWII. He saw heavy combat in Saipan, Guadalcanal and Okinawa and was awarded the Bronze Star for gallantry and bravery – saving the life of a fellow marine while under fire. After the war, George and his brother Frank went up to Alaska to blow off steam for a while but both returned to Chicago where George studied painting and drawing at the Art Institute of Chicago. He became an award winning artist. His work may be seen at the Art Institute and in private collections. He was talented in the field of art restoration and was commissioned to work at the Guggenheim Museum in New York City. George not only painted; he would color old falconry lithographs with unique attention to detail. He was an intelligent and thoughtful man, had a wonderful sense of humor and was always interesting. As a young man, in order to improve his vocabulary, he read the dictionary from cover to cover. George was generous with his equipment-making talents, falconry book collection and skill as a falconer. He mentored many young falconers in the care and handling of their birds. His strong personality and perfectionism has had a lasting influence on GLFA.







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